

C. REMARKS.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4-6, 9, 11, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,722,120 and has rejected claims 1, 11, 15, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious in light of U.S. Patent No. 5,460,087 and has rejected claims 4-6, 9, 13, 14, 16, and 18 as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,460,087 and U.S. Patent No. 6,212,872.

To more clearly recite Applicant's invention, Applicant has amended claims 1, 4, 6, and 10. Applicant has also added new claim 19. Applicant has amended the aforementioned claims and added new claim 19 to indicate Applicant's invention comprises a masking apparatus which transfers both positive and negative images of the mask to the working surface. None of the references cited by the Examiner, whether alone or in combination with one another, disclose or suggest such limitations. Applicant respectfully submits that its invention, as amended, is patentable over the cited art.

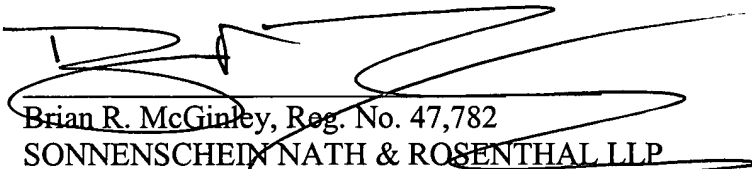
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that its claimed invention, as amended, has overcome the Examiner's objections.

C. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing Amendment and Remarks, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw all objections and place this Application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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